

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

### February, 2002

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twenty-Third Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.*

### Residents of Twenty-third Middlesex Representative District

#### Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.3% (372) reside in the Twenty-third Middlesex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (70) of Twenty-third Middlesex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 79.3% of admissions from the Twenty-third Middlesex Representative District were male and 20.7% were female.
- Over 64.2% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 92.4% of admissions were white non-Latino, 2.4% were black non-Latino, 2.6% were Latino, 0.2% were Asian and 2.1% were other racial categories.
- 67.2% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 12.6% were married, and 15% reported not to be married now.
- 23.9% of admissions had less than high school education, 52.1% completed high school, and 23.9% had more than high school education.
- 37.6% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 9.4% of those admitted were homeless.
- 8% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

#### Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Twenty-third Middlesex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 1</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used</b> <b>FY 1995 – FY 2001</b>							
<b>Twenty-third Middlesex Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	329	280	98	105	84	96	58
<b>FY '96</b>	315	272	95	112	66	106	67
<b>FY '97</b>	294	244	81	64	48	89	71
<b>FY '98</b>	367	275	107	76	31	107	70
<b>FY '99</b>	324	259	100	71	35	100	73
<b>FY '00</b>	352	272	101	73	32	123	80
<b>FY '01</b>	372	269	81	88	47	164	123

- Since dropping in FY 1997, residents of Twenty-third Middlesex Representative District reported an increase in alcohol, cocaine and heroin use. Alcohol use increased by 10%, cocaine use by 37%, and heroin use by 84%
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting marijuana and crack use decreased by 17% and 44%, respectively.

### **Primary Substance of Use:**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twenty-third Middlesex Representative District.

<b>Table 2</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	44.8%	42.2%	5.1%	3.7%	0.2%
State	46.4%	35.9%	6.5%	3.8%	3.4%

- While cocaine as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, heroin as a primary drug was higher, and, alcohol, marijuana and crack was lower within your District.